

FEBRUARY 1999

**IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF COSTA RICA FOR
SHEEP EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES**

The animals must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by a veterinarian authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and endorsed by a Veterinary Services (VS) veterinarian. The certificate shall contain the name and address of both the consignor and consignee and complete identification of the animals to be exported. Additional information shall include:

CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS

1. The United States is free of foot-and-mouth disease, rinderpest, sheep and goat pox, and pestes de petits ruminantes.
2. No clinical cases of bluetongue, chlamydiosis, listeriosis, Q-fever, ovine progressive pneumonia, or brucellosis have occurred on the farm of origin during the 60 days prior to embarkation.
3. During the 5 years prior to exportation, the animals for export were not affected with scrapie, do not originate from an infected flock, source flock or trace flock, and are not the progeny, sibling or parent of a scrapie affected animal.
4. The animals originated from farms that have not been quarantined because of transmissible diseases in the last 60 days.
5. The animals are free of clinical evidence of external parasites.
6. The animals selected for exportation have been isolated from all other animals from the date of the first test until embarkation.

TEST REQUIREMENTS

The animals were negative to the following tests within 30 days of embarkation:

1. Brucellosis: Complement fixation (CF) test at a 1:10 dilution for Brucella ovis; OR ELISA test.
2. Ovine progressive pneumonia: Agar gel immunodiffusion (AGID) test

OTHER INFORMATION

1. The animals were transported directly from the farm of origin directly to the port of embarkation in cleaned and disinfected vehicles without coming into contact with other animals of unequal health status.
2. Consular stamping is not required.
3. Note: Although not a country requirement, the Ministry of Agriculture may recommend to the importer that the animals be tested for enzootic ovine abortion.

EMBARKATION CERTIFICATION

At the port of embarkation, a VS port veterinarian shall attach to the U.S. Origin Health Certificate, the Certificate of Inspection of Export Animals (VS Form 17-37) showing:

1. The name and address of the consignor.
2. The name and address of the consignee.
3. The number and species of animals to be shipped.
4. A statement that the animals have been given a careful veterinary inspection at the port of embarkation and found free from evidence of communicable disease and exposure thereto within 24 hours of exportation.